



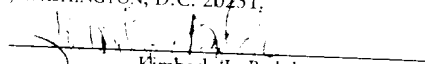
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

Applicant: TRAVIS A. LEMKE	Examiner:
Serial No.: 09/876,459	Group Art Unit: 1723
Filed: June 7, 2001	Docket No. 54197-237098
For: CONDUCTIVITY FEEDBACK CONTROL SYSTEM FOR SLURRY BLENDING	

Box Non Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

I CERTIFY THAT, ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2001, THIS PAPER IS BEING
SENT VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR
PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231,


Kimberly L. Bzdok

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please enter this Preliminary Amendment in the cited application.

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Figures 7A and 7B are a flow diagram of chemical blending program executed by the control system shown in Figure 6; --

Please replace the following four paragraphs, beginning at page 18, line 28, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

-- More specifically, Figures 7A and 7B show a flow diagram of one preferred methodology 700 of the present invention in which conductivity data is used as a feedback control to accurately provide a blended slurry having a solids content between the Upper and Lower Qualification Range Setpoints.

Thus, as shown at step 702, microprocessor 602 begins the mixing process by opening valve 412 to fill mix vessel 402 with a desired amount of diluent, as detected by liquid level sensor 434. Once mix vessel 402 has been filled to a level detectable by